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A PRE-NURSING COURSE OUTLINED

Dear Editor: The State Normal College at Greensboro, N. C., through its science department, has put in a combined course leading to B. S. and graduate nurse. The outline is as follows:

For entrance—English, 3 units; mathematics, 3 units; Latin, French or German, 2 units; science, 1 unit; history, 2 units; elective, 3 units.

Freshman

First Semeste	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
English	3	English	3
Mathematics	4	Mathematics	4
Foreign Language	3	Foreign Language	3
Biology	3	Household Physics	3
History	3	History	3
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16		16	

Sophomore

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
English	3	English	3
Foreign Language	3	Foreign Language	3
General Chemistry	3	General Chemistry	3
Biology	3	Biology	3
Foods and Cookery	3	Hygiene	3
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15		15	

Junior

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
Anatomy and Physiology	3	Anatomy and Physiology	3
Psychology	3	Psychology	3
Sociology	3	Sociology	3
Household Chemistry	3	Household Chemistry	3
Dietetics	3	Bacteriology	3
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15		15	

Senior—Two years of work in a school of nursing accredited by the American Nurses' Association and having a course of study conforming to the Standard Curriculum prepared by the Committee on Education of the National League of Nursing Education.

At the 1919 session of the Legislature, the nurses' registration act was so amended that nurses taking this course are eligible for examination. North Carolina secured compulsory registration in 1917.

North Carolina

MARY L. WYCHE.

LETTERS FROM NURSES IN SERVICE

I.

Dear Editor: The nurses did enjoy the copy of the JOURNAL which you sent to the Children's Bureau in Paris. We have had a most interesting time in

northern Serbia. I am at present in the little town of Palumka, where I found a hospital like some of those described by Florence Nightingale, and it has been such a satisfaction to clean it up and to know that the American Red Cross can be of such great service. Three of my nurses will remain to teach the orderlies who are here from Belgrade, but I shall go on to some of the other places.

Serbia

HARRIET L. LEETE.

II.

(Extracts from a letter written to the Nursing and Health Alumnae Association of Teachers College)

In the first place I wish to mention that we came here at the invitation of the British and all our work has been made possible by the helpful coöperation of the British Expeditionary Forces under General Allenby. When we reached here on June 18, the place was very active with military affairs. The British turned over to the A. R. C., the Russian buildings, which cover two city blocks of ground, very central, and after much cleaning have become most attractive. A part of these buildings has been used as a hospice where many of us live; another part for hospital and still another for laboratory, etc. While the hospital was being repaired and cleaned, I was sent nearer the front to take charge of and help equip one hospital (infectious), two dispensaries and a camp hospital of réfugiés, all in different places. This was all civilian work in districts near the war zone. These were run by native doctors and nurses; some from French, Turkish and English hospitals. Their standards were not high, but with proper supervision our problems gradually became solved. My home was a camp of ten tents under beautiful olive trees, surrounded by cactus hedges and about a city block away from the famous Crusader Towers, where Napoleon used to have his headquarters. There is always an enormous eye clinic in the near East and dispensary numbers run very high. Some days two hundred and fifty cases were not unusual, perhaps drawn from as many as thirteen villages. When our hospital in Jerusalem was ready, August 23, I returned to this "Holy City" and took charge of the surgical department. This included the central equipment operating room and dispensary. The only large sterilizer was in this building and all sterile supplies were sent out from this center. All the large surgical cases (civilian) were sent to us. From this center we have fitted out as many as twenty units; when their work in one field was finished their supplies would be returned, checked up, supplemented, and made ready for another field service. The stocking of the hospital proper was done by Frances McQuaide and to her all credit is due. There is accommodation for seventy patients; at first the cases were mostly medical, malaria, etc.; to-day it is very much surgical and ten operations in an afternoon are not unusual. She has built up a good training school of native nurses and orderlies, and I think America would be quite surprised at the results. Also the dietary and housekeeping departments are running very efficiently. We brought out on our ship, equipment like that used at the War Demonstration Hospital, New York, and most of the wounds have been treated according to the Carrel-Dakin methods. The native nurses say they would not know how to dress wounds without Dakin's Solution and Cerelene. Our skin grafts have been carefully cleaned with albolene and dressed with paraffine silk and gauze. Many an infected arm and leg has been saved by the Carrel-Dakin technique, and in fact I have only known of one amputation. Every week several cases are sent in, due to accidents from bombs. These are mostly children who, finding unexploded bombs on the road, play with them, and frequently the right hand is lost. Our Babies' Hospital opened by Lilian Spellman, is well worth

mention. It overlooks a beautiful garden on the west and the Mount of Olives on the east. The little white beds are so clean and touches of delft blue, here and there, add to the attractiveness of the place and make it look more like a beautifully equipped nursery. The porch room is excellent and the children get plenty of fresh air. There is one baby named by the nurses the Bishop's baby, because it was found by the English Church Bishop on his door-step, Christmas morning. We have a splendidly equipped laboratory which we term "The Petticoat Lab" because it is run entirely by women, with Nancy Hamilton in charge. The Government hospital for infectious diseases was in a wretched condition when we arrived here. The native nurses in charge were very inefficient. Many "petit inhabitants" abounded. The British asked for a superintendent and Katherine Macklin was loaned by the A. R. C. It accommodates fifty patients and at present is a clean and well managed institution. Also I might mention the day nursery for dozens of babies, making it possible for their mothers to go out to service. The refugee camps in different parts of the country sometimes run up to thousands, and these mean camp hospitals. Can you imagine yourself caring for patients in tents, lying on the ground, with probably a blanket and a few old dirty rags called clothing? The delousing in these camps has been an enormous sanitary problem and one for which the Sanitary Engineers deserve great credit. There are two large orphanages which the Red Cross has taken over in Jerusalem. These children are well cared for, schooled and eventually taught trades in apprentice shops connected with the institutions. One of these orphanages has developed the system of student government. I was interested in attending their court held at 4 P. M. last Monday. Five of the students are voted as judges and each boy is given a chance to defend his own case. This is also a very good training for the native teachers, as all material is somewhat crude and language here is a great problem. A great work has been done through the employment bureaus. The industrial shops have supplied employment for hundreds.

Palestine

E. M. W.

III.

(Extracts from a Private Letter)

Dear ———: Fifteen of us who had offered to remain longer, were transferred from Base Hospital No. 13, on January 13th. We had a wonderful trip here, visiting Rhiems, Verdun and Paris. In Paris, we admired tremendously the huge painting "Pantheon de le Guerre," of which you must have read. The Louvre is open now, but was not when we were there. Treves, so we learned from the guide-book, was founded by Augustus about 300 B. C. It is situated in the lovely valley of the Moselle and is surrounded by mountains. Our hospital is at the foot of a lovely little mountain whose sides are dotted most picturesquely with church spires, statues of the saints and the Virgin. There is, too, an abundance of red clay which combines very effectively with the new green, now springing up. There are probably more Roman ruins here than in any other spot outside of Italy; amphitheaters, baths, basilicas and arches. Porto Negro or black gate, is the most famous. There are two evacuation hospitals here, both in German garrisons. Ours has about 700 patients and the other has 1,500. Our patients come from the Army of Occupation, naturally, and just now the cases are largely pneumonia, influenza and contagious diseases. I have been working in the tuberculosis ward most of the time and have had some of my very nicest patients among them. All of my sympathy goes out to those poor lads. Before I went on night duty I had a lot of pets; but night seems queer, you know, and is not conducive

to finding pets. Our boys are really the most wonderful on earth; I'm going to miss them like everything. All the boys think of now is getting home. Their jokes are all about getting stuck here. One of the boys said to me this morning: "Nurse, do you know what I dreamed?" I said, "I suppose you dreamed you were home." Said he, "Yes, I dreamed I was home and it was 1940, and I met General Pershing on the street and said to him, 'General, do you remember the 90th Division?' and he said 'Yes, I surely do; and that reminds me, they are still in Germany drilling five hours a day.'" We were lucky enough to get to Nice, before coming up here. It is a most heavenly place; fields of hot-house roses, orange groves, olive trees, palms, the blue sea, and rarest of all commodities in sunny France,—sunshine.

Germany

G.

THE PROBLEM OF THE PRIVATE DUTY NURSE

I.

Dear Editor: I would thank you for your understanding editorial on the private duty nurse, in the April JOURNAL. Too often the private duty nurse, like the woman that lives out her life being just mother, is taken for granted, and she feels that she has much hard work and makes many sacrifices without much appreciation.

New Jersey

E. P.

II.

Dear Editor: Please let me thank you for your editorial in the March JOURNAL, The Sphere of the Private Duty Nurse, also your April editorial. It certainly is a comfort to have one who understands private duty from the ground floor up, proud of the fact and willing to say so. Public health and industrial nursing is, after all, the pioneer work of well-trained private duty nurses.

Wisconsin

M. E. R.

A PROSE POEM ON THE EPIDEMIC

Dear Editor: I am sending you a letter which was sent me during the recent epidemic, written by a woman who volunteered for service in her home town.

"I take my pen in hand to say I hope you're feeling well to-day and that this horrid Spanish flu has fastened not its grip on you. So far, I'm feeling pretty good but think I'd better tap on wood, for goodness knows when I'll be down. This pesky flu's all over town! And white and black and rich and poor are all included in its tour. It's hit towns large of population and little huts in isolation. No man knoweth whence it came but it has got here just the same. And there is borne on all the breezes the sound of coughs and sniffs and sneezes. Six days and nights I've had to nurse two victims of this latest curse. Thank heaven! They are slightly better, and hence my pep to write this letter. Believe you me, they've kept me busy. I've turned about till I am dizzy. I've had no time to scout around but!—nothin' doin' up in town. The picture shows are closed up tight, the soda fountains have the blight, and everybody stays at home (safety first—afraid to roam). High prices, war and conservation are now passé in conversation. And all the talk that's in the air is of this Epizootic scare. No use to let it get your goat. Just sit right calmly in the boat. Well, I must stop immediately. I hear my sick ones calling me; I wonder what they're wanting now. No doubt, another 'plaint for chow. They lie in bed and think up eats that would require digestive feats. So now, good-bye! Again I'll say I hope you're feeling well today."

Virginia

S. V. T.